

## **Title: WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) YOUTH PROGRAM**

- Focus:** The focus of the youth program is to provide preparation for postsecondary educational opportunities, linkages between academic and occupational learning, preparation for employment, and effective connections to intermediary organizations that provide youth with strong links to the job market and employers. The WIA Youth program also promotes youth development and citizenship by providing services such as leadership development through voluntary community services opportunities, adult mentoring, and post-program follow-up.
- Description:** Twenty-five local Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs) operate youth programs on a year-round basis. Youth services include tutoring, studying skills training, alternative secondary school offering, summer employment opportunities, paid and unpaid work experience, occupational skill training, leadership development opportunities, supportive services, adult mentoring, follow-up services, and comprehensive guidance and counseling.
- Eligibility:** An eligible youth is an individual who:
- Is age 14 through 21;
  - Is a U.S. Citizen or eligible non-citizen;
  - Registered with Selective Service (if applicable)
  - Is a low income individual and is within one or more of the following categories;
    - Deficient in basic literacy skills;
    - School dropout;
    - Homeless, runaway, or foster child;
    - Pregnant or parenting;
    - Offender; or
    - Is an individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program, or to secure and hold employment.



**Procedure:** The federal funds are allocated by formula to the 25 local MWAs. The MWAs must submit annual plans to the Workforce Development Agency for approval. Funds are allocated on an annual basis each July.

**Contact:** Michigan Works! at 1-800-285-WORKS (9675) or visit [www.michiganworks.org](http://www.michiganworks.org) for additional information or to locate your local service center.

**Technical Questions:**

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